

MARBLE HILL PRESS.

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MARBLE HILL, MISSOURI.

TRAVEL is a great civilizer. The traveler returned from his Austrian and Italian tour with a much better opinion of his Hebrew subjects, so that now the anti-Semitic question is little heard of in Germany.

The spinsters form the only approach to a leisure class in America. A vast work is done by them all the time. A vaster work awaits them. All social philosophers who know anything will hail with approval all indications that promise increased liberty, and thereby increased usefulness to spinsters.

We are nowhere near the limit of our agricultural resources, but from this time forward more labor and productive means must be applied to secure a given return from the soil. Any forcing of settlement will only serve to bring on prematurely the hardships which must be borne sooner or later in the natural course of events.

There is no doubt of the growing sentiment in behalf of woodlands, and here and in England, where the earth and those who dwell upon it have suffered much from ignorant and ruthless cutting, there is a movement looking to the proper instruction of keepers and foresters, who shall tell intelligently and keep the wood free from bad and rotting old trees and still a perpetual sea of rolling green foliage.

Rip tape, or a certain amount of it, is perhaps, necessary in all governments, but it is not a thing to be proud of, and certainly in a democratic government it is desirable to have as little of it as possible. This was emphasized by Thomas Jefferson, the first day of his administration when he rode to the capitol in common garb, hitched his horse, and proceeded unattended to take the oath of office as president of the United States.

It has always been supposed until latter days that colleges are endowed and maintained for the purpose of intellectual development. That unfortunate percentage of young men afflicted with such persistent stupidity as to be incapable of intellectual development was supposed under the intellectual theory to retire from college when the fact was demonstrated by their failure to pass examinations. The new theory that they are the chosen class presents a novel view both of college institutions and the mental fibre of the college athletes.

It should not be forgotten that in all migratory movements the males greatly outnumber the females. The manly pioneers come first to select a home and to secure a firm foothold in the new land. When they succeed they send for their wives and little ones. If they fail they do not subject their families to the hardships and vicissitudes which they must encounter. There is no doubt that many thousands of immigrants act upon this prudent policy, and these constitute the most desirable and worthy contributions to the country's population.

WHAT the school geographers designated as the great American desert a few years ago is now filled with thrifty farmers and covered with growing crops and fattening herds. Where were marked impassable mountain ranges are now busy cities and charming health resorts among the Rocky Mountains. Man is not only conquering the difficulties of nature in the West, but he is overcoming his prejudices against a region where life is not only profitable but pleasant. In a few years more the mountains of the great West will have as great a relative population as have the mountains of Switzerland.

It is an exceptional married woman who will find it possible to "have her own choice" in anything like the same degree as the coming spinster of forty, who finds herself released from parental constraint and free to get out of the world as much as she can. The earth is to be hers and the fulness thereof. It is open to her, and she is advancing upon it with flying feet. She promises to be one of the freest of mortal creatures, and one of the most coercive and competent. Clubs are growing up in great cities for her convenience; big buildings are planned for her to live in; charities are looking to her for management; dependent relatives are to owe their support to the results of her intelligent exertions.

The tendency to small families is observable in this country, but here it seems to prevail rather among the rich and the well-to-do, the educated and the refined, than among the poor and the uneducated. English travelers have long made the smallness of American families a charge against our civilization, and they have also ascribed the morality of France for a like reason; but this last census indicates that they have the same evil to deal with at home. Marriage is decreasing in England, and the birth rate is falling off even more. Once again, we are likely to be very different from the English. Already it is noticeable that the conditions of population in this country are likely to be very different from those in England.

VESUVIUS ON THE STAGE.

HOW A TRUE PICTURE CAN BE PRODUCED.

Through the Effect of a Magic Lantern—A World's Fair Building—Various Cleanings from the World of Science—Wonderful Triumphs.

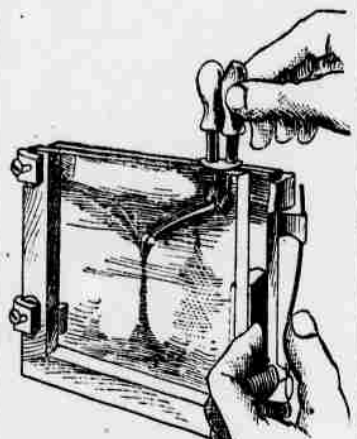
Not every one can go to Europe, but possessed of a lively imagination, one may go there in spirit, provided only that the scenes are presented pictorially in a truthful and artistic way. Thanks first to the skill of the optician, and secondly to the modern photographic art, any one may be instructed and entertained by the modern lanternist, who will produce storm or sunshine, winter or summer, or the soft effects of moonlight at will upon the screen by the



Eruption of Mt. Vesuvius.

skillful manipulation of the optical lantern with a wonderful effect, but there are many effects which seem to be difficult of execution by means of the optical lantern. The saying is, "See Naples and then die," but what is seen in Naples without seeing Vesuvius in active eruption? Comparatively few European travelers have the good fortune to witness this phenomenon, and until now, so far as we are aware, no one has been able to faithfully represent this awe-inspiring spectacle.

Mr. H. C. Ogden, of Middletown, N. Y., has come to the aid of the lanternist and the non-traveler by producing a very simple apparatus by means of which Vesuvius, in full eruption, may be projected on the screen in a very vivid and realistic manner. Fig. 1 of the engravings shows the scene as it appears on the screen, and Fig. 2 shows the apparatus by which the effect is produced. The main idea of Mr. Ogden is illustrated in this apparatus, but our artist has added an improvement which is designed to represent the flowing lava as well as the upwardly projected flame and smoke. In a glass tank attached to the lantern are inserted two curved drop tubes, with their extremities placed side by side, and on the rear of the tank is painted a picture of the volcano, which is represented mainly in profile by black varnish applied to the glass. The tips of the drop tubes coincide with the crater of the volcano, and from the crater down the sides there are transparent streaks representing lava. To the side of one of the



Apparatus for projecting the volcanic effect.

clamps holding the tank together is attached a spring carrying a strip of metal which extends along behind the opaque portion of the picture provided with teeth.

Hardening Steel Plates.

Several of the most prominent manufacturers of iron in Sheffield, England, have been endeavoring to ascertain definitely whether, after all, oil hardening and annealing, or some such process, is really necessary for steel plates, the result of the trials thus far made showing that, in respect to comparative armor, the necessity is obvious. A 1-inch plate of steel was for this purpose manufactured and cut into two plates, each four feet square, one piece being left untreated and the other oil hardened and annealed. These were fired by a six-inch gun with Fifth Steel projectiles weighing 100 pounds, the striking energy of the blow upon the untreated plate being 2,350-foot tons and the energy of the blow upon that which had been treated was 2,378 foot-tons. In the latter case the projectile made an indentation of ten and one-half inches, so that light was just visible through the center of the bulge at the back of the plate, though cracked through, was whole, nor was any material splintered out either at the back or front. A case of the non-treated plate, the shot passed through, and the splintering of the steel around the hole in front of the plate spread over a space of fifteen inches across. The splintering around the hole at the back of the plate covered a space of thirty-three inches across, and the plate went into six pieces.

An Ingenious Lock.

French ingenuity has contrived a remedy for the inefficiency of ordinary combination locks for houses and apartments, these contrivances being usually of so little avail against professional thieves, who, in the case of the door lock, simply insert the end of a short iron lever, or "jimmy," between the door and its rabbit, forcing the whole affair inward, tearing out both locks and bolts on the way. According to the new device for locking the door, a difficulty combination is resorted to of the iron shore with the ordinary lock in such a manner that locking the door does a share in place which will resist an enormous strain, but on the return of the proprietor the unlocking of the door is effected by the usual way of turning the key, and the shore shifts the door in the frame, where it presents no obstacle to the opening of the door. The mechanism of the lock itself need not be very elaborate, although the picking of the lock would be more than the ordinary lock, and the shore is so constructed as to prevent picking, with a

bit of wire; and if the jimmy is insufficient for the purpose, the point of security is attained.

New Process for Soap.

An improved kind of soap for metal work has lately been described, of some special advantages, it is said, as compared with those usually employed in this line—that is, mixtures of vaseline, oleic acid, and fat, combined with a small quantity of rosin, and which, when freshly prepared, leaves nothing to be desired, excepting, unfortunately, that such compositions soon turn rancid and become unfit for use. The new article now brought forward was stated to be made from coconut butter in the following manner: 2.5 kilos, of the butter are melted in an iron vessel, together with a little water; to this mixture being added, with constant stirring, 180 grms. of chalk, 87.5 grms. of alum and the same of cream of tartar and of white lead respectively. The mixt re prepared in this manner is then poured into molds and allowed to solidify. This soap is made into a paste with water and rubbed over the metal to be cleaned, and finally removed by a dry rag or chamois leather.

For Silvering Iron.

In silvering iron a recent process introduced in Austrian workshops consists in plunging the iron article into hot dilute hydrochloric acid, whence it is removed to a solution of mercury nitrate and connected with the zinc pole of a Bunsen element, gas carbon of platinum serving as the other pole. It is rapidly covered with a layer of quicksilver, when it is removed, washed, and transferred to a silver bath and silvered. By using 100 to 300 Cents, the mercury is driven off, and the silver firmly fixed on the iron. To save silver the wire may be first covered with a layer of tin, one part of cream of tartar being dissolved in eight parts of boiling water, and one or more tin anodes joined with the carbon pole of a Bunsen element. The zinc pole communicates with a well-cleaned piece of copper and the battery made to act until enough tin has deposited on the copper, when this is taken out and the wire is placed in its place. The wire thus treated is much cheaper than any other silvered metal.

Cork for Wine Bottles.

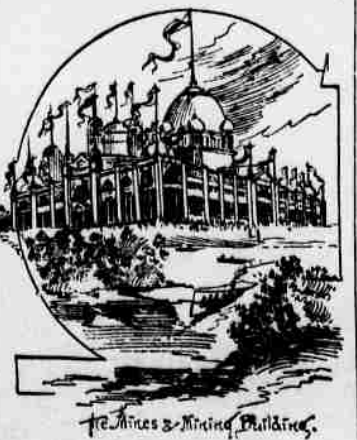
Manufacturers of corks are directing their attention to the production, if possible, of a cork that shall be impenetrable, when used for wine bottles, to the various types of worms which infest the latter. This is true in special of one description or genus, the grub of which feeds on the cork, and grows to form on wine vats and mouldy corks, the insect boring and forming galleries in the cork nearest to the glass, and through the holes thus formed the air gains access to the wine, spoiling it. Various methods have been resorted to to overcome the difficulty, one of these being to soak the corks in hot water and then in brandy, dry them, and when they are put into the bottles coat the tops with a layer of paraffine wax previous to sealing them with ordinary wax, such coating being intended to prevent any entrance into the cork itself of grubs or insects.

Testing Steel Guns.

A short time ago the French government caused to be instituted a series of tests of gun steel at a low temperature, that is from 75 to 100 below zero Fahr., part of the bars being hardened and part unhardened, and the breaking load was increased by the cooling—3 per cent in the instance of the unhardened bars, and 6 per cent in the hardened ones. It seems that in a shock such as a gun would be subjected to the unhardened bars broke on an average with 3.9 blows against 14.6 blows under ordinary conditions. With the hardened bars the difference was less, 11.57 blows being required for the cold bars, against 14.4 at the normal temperature. The various bars employed in these tests, both hardened and unhardened, had their elastic limit raised eleven per cent by the cold, and their elongation was diminished twelve to fourteen per cent.

A Wonderful Building.

The style of architecture of the proposed mixed building of the Columbian fair is classic, and its dimensions will be 700 by 350 feet. The height to the main cornice is to be 65 feet. There will be an entrance on each side of the building, the grand entrances being at the north and south ends. These will be 110 feet high and 25 feet wide, each opening into a vestibule 88 feet wide,



The Palace of Machinery.

elaborately decorated. At each corner of the building there is to be a pavilion 65 feet square and 90 feet high, surmounted by a dome. A balcony, 60 feet wide and 25 feet high encircles the building, and leading to it will be eight stairways. The roof will be of glass, 100 feet from the floor. The cost will be \$350,000.

A Man of Experience.

Rural Youth—"What's them things called?"
Dealer—"These are bicycles."
"I've seen 'em, but I couldn't think of the name. I'd like to ride one."
"Can you ride a bicycle?"
"Of course. Nuthin' ter do but sit on top an' work the wheels, that's all, ain't it?"
"Yes but you are apt to fall at first."
"S'pose I do. Can I do more than hit the ground?"
"N-o."
"Then what's to hurt?"
"You might come down hard, you know."
"But it's only the ground—no knives or things like that on the thing is there?"
"Oh, n-o."
"Nuthin' to worry 'bout then. I've druv a hay-rake."

A Forgetful Spouse.

Mrs. Bilkins—I never saw such a forgetful man in all my life as you are.
The Clerk has stopped again.
Mrs. Bilkins—That's because you forgot to wind it.
Mrs. Bilkins—Huh! You know very well Mr. Bilkins, that I told you to wind it, and you let it go and let it stop.

EX-MINISTERS I OUGLASS.

The Most Talented Man of His Race Ever Produced.

Frederick Douglass, the well-known colored orator who has just resigned his post as minister to Haiti, is without doubt one of the most talented men his race has ever produced. He stands by universal consent the head and representative of his race in America. With a splendid physique, tall and powerfully built, the swarthy complexion of the mulatto, an abundant crop of negro hair, white as snow, and features while of the negro type, are nevertheless full of emotional fire and intellectual force, he looks every inch a man born for distinction.



FREDERICK DOUGLASS.

Maryland, February, 1817, amid the latest and deadliest of streams, surrounded by a white population of the lowest order and among slaves who in point of ignorance and indolence were fully in accord with their surroundings. It is a remarkable fact that there is no one, and apparently only one, exception to the general laziness and ignorance of the black population in the midst of which he was born, and that one exception was his mother. She could read, though how she could have learned has ever been a mystery to her son.

All the world is more or less familiar with the slave life of America, and the only exceptional feature of Frederick Douglass' career was the fact of his being a high-spirited, bright and intelligent mulatto, with a consuming desire for knowledge and freedom. A lady incidentally taught him his alphabet, and although the period of his early discovery and every effort made to extinguish the light thus kindled the efforts were in vain. Douglass learned to read and write by and by and he resolved to be free. It is difficult to realize the desperate character of such a resolution.

He knew something of theology but nothing of geography, and did not know whether there was a spot on this side of the Atlantic where he could be safe from his pursuers. He was, however, others made their plans, were betrayed and were plunged into mere hopeless depths of slavery. At 23 years of age he succeeded in escaping, and after ward went to England a fugitive slave. Two quaker ladies of Newcastle raised \$24 for the purchase of his freedom, and, as he himself pithily puts it, provided with this title to his own body he went back to fight the battles of his race.

In 1847 he began in Rochester, N. Y., the publication of "Frederick Douglass' Paper," whose title was afterward changed to "The North Star." In 1859 he again fled to England to escape arrest for supposed implication in the John Brown raid. He assisted in organizing colored regiments during the war, and in 1871 was appointed secretary to the commission of San Domingo. In 1876 he was made United States marshal for the District of Columbia, where he remained until 1881.

THE NEW COMMANDER.

Capt. John Palmer of the G. A. R. and His Creditable War Record.

The newly elected Commander-in-Chief of the Grand Army of the Republic, Capt. John Palmer of Albany, N. Y., was born on Staten Island March 22, 1842. His war record is an excellent one. On Sept. 10, 1861, he enlisted in the Ninety-first New York volunteers, and was constantly with that regiment until it was mustered out July 3, 1865, taking part in all its engagements. He was seriously injured at the battle of Five Forks, in the combined charge of cavalry and infantry. By force of his soldierly qualities he attained successively the grades of corporal, sergeant, sergeant-major, second lieutenant, first lieutenant, adjutant and captain. Since the war he has been engaged in the fresco, painting and decorating business at Albany. He is one of the very best of the great and most popular members of the order in his State, is a charter member of Lew Benedict Post, No. 5, department of New York, and was for several terms commander of this post.



which, with headquarters at Albany, is one of the largest and most influential posts in the country. He was twice elected commander of the department of New York, and in 1879 was chosen senior vice-commander-in-chief, acquiring himself with credit in all these important positions. Being thus placed in the direct line of promotion to the highest office in the organization, the election was assured the moment the delegates from New York determined to unite upon him as their choice. He is a forcible speaker, a good presiding officer at department and national conventions, and has frequently been voted for as the representative of the military both State and National organizations.

WAR'S BLOODSPOT.

Where the Carriage Was the Greatest of Spotlights.

Should you ask a veteran of the war, officer or private, to point out the bloodspot of the war, the field on which the carriage was the greatest in a given time, says M. Quad in the New York World, no two would perhaps agree. Almost every battle of the war would be named, and not one in a hundred answers would locate the spot.

It was at Spottsylvania on the second day of the fight. On the afternoon of the first, as the Second and Fifth corps moved up against the earthworks crowning Laurel Hill, they were driven back after a fight lasting not over forty minutes, with a loss of almost 6,000 killed and wounded. The dead were ten to every wounded man. There was no heavy fighting next day.

Grant was inspecting Lee's lines for a weak spot. He found it at the point known to every soldier on both sides and to history as "the horseshoe." In forming his battle line Lee had left this to stand. Indeed, his troops had formed it as they came on the field. At this one point his field-work projected out from the main line like a tongue of land into a bay. A whole Federal corps might have rushed against it in daylight to its destruction, but Grant moved Hancock's troops by night and stationed them for a dash in the gray of morning. They rested on the fields of the Brown farm and the farmer's house was Hancock's headquarters. From Hancock's lines to the Horseshoe was less than half a mile, with the route obstructed by thickets and a second-growth of forest.

Just before daybreak of that early summer's morning, with a mist rising from the fields and thickets, and while the birds were faintly chirping in the trees as they noted the coming of dawn, Hancock's men moved forward. The confederate pickets were only pistol-shot away. As they challenged the lines got the word to double-quick, and the pickets were carried along with the rush. With cheers and yells, which were heard two miles away, the federal struck, the field-works dashed over them—were upon the confederates before even a single company had rallied. Some of the defenders were preparing an early breakfast—some yet slept. More than 3,000 prisoners were captured in twenty minutes, and Lee's right center was pierced.

Then came delay and confusion, and the golden moment was lost. He formed a new line in the rear of the Horseshoe and the federal reached it to be driven back to the ground they had captured.

Now it was Lee's turn. He did here what he did at Gettysburg—attempted the impossible. Five times within ten hours did he hurl great masses of troops at Hancock's front, but each time they were repulsed with dreadful slaughter. Every charge was made with a momentum which carried the confederates clear up to the field-works, and they were shot and bayoneted or taken prisoner. After the third charge the dead almost blocked the way, while the cries of the wounded almost drowned the roar of musketry. There was not a tree nor bush nor twig nor blade of grass which was not cut by the flying missiles. The earth was ridged and plowed and furrowed as if some mighty drag had passed and re-passed. The very air seemed to blaze and burn.

After 1 o'clock it rained heavily, and wounded men dragged themselves about and drank out of the pools and hollows. Those who could not crawl lay open mouth to cool their parched tongues by catching a few drops. In front of a part of Birney's division was a sink hole. Into this rain and blood collected until it was full of red water, and around this were a hundred wounded men drinking and moaning.

Not when the sun went down—not when the light came—but only at midnight did Lee cease hurling his gray masses at Hancock's front. Then the living could no longer charge over the dead and wounded. And when the morning came again and men looked out on those acres of field and bush they saw what was seen nowhere else during the long and bloody war—the earth hidden from sight—the soil glutted with blood that when the burial parties cleared it of its awful burden it had turned red!

Took the Hint.

Some of the friends of a Portland young man called on him the other evening, says the Lewiston Journal, and had a pleasant time, but long after midnight he commenced to wonder why they did not thank him for his hospitality and leave for home. As dawn approached he abruptly left the room. After a few minutes had passed as the young man did not return, they went to search for him. They found him on the front steps looking anxiously about. He was peering over the fence and poking about in corners. "What are you looking for?" said one of the party. "Oh, I was just looking for the morning paper," replied the host. It worked.

A Friendly Shake.

At Rocky Hill, Conn., last summer, lightning shook hands with Farmer W. H. Stevens in a most cordial manner. He was in the shed at S. F. Wright's house, and had a piece of a scythe in his hand. The thunderbolt took the iron out of his hands, threw it into one corner of the shed, and jumped Stevens into an opposite corner. Mr. Stevens says that when the lightning took hold of him he felt as if a fountain had burst inside him and spouted pins and needles into every part of his body.

Dr. Parker at the Head.

The British congressional union is said to be controlled by a secret ring of ministers joined in a society named the Kolnond. They number about 250, with Dr. Parker at the head. One of their first ends is to check officialism.

The First Consulmaker.

The first consulmaker in England is said to have been Morion, the bishop of Ely, who, in the reign of Henry VIII., constructed a car for navigation between Peterboro and the sea forty miles long.



The Angel's Sign.

That angels make the flowers can any doubt. Though in no book the declaration reads? That opening heaven's windows they fling out
On the warm earth the little shining seeds?
So, be you student, friend, or connoisseur, Search well thro' all the tangled, curious lines
For the spirit of the angel fashionier; Somewhere plain as the light his signs shines.

Look in that flower-to childhood always sweet—
It droops upon a long and slender stalk—
You come upon it in a wild retreat
Or sometimes in an open, sunny walk.

Unnoticed hitherto, tho' often seen:
Now, studying with clear and childlike eyes
In the sorrel blossom's trefoil leaves of green,
You will find the secret mark of paradise.

Beneath the twisted bud, purple or pink,
Sometimes a yellow, rare and golden line,
A drop, like gem point dipped in crimson ink,
On the green leaves—that is the angel's sign.

—AGNES E. MITCHELL.

Lost Identity.

The New York board of education recently decided that all teachers employed by the board must use their full Christian names. This is a dignified demand, and public sentiment will support it. Kitties and Lillies and Manies and Nellies so written and spelled would weaken the value of any parchment; it is to be hoped that these pet names will be confined in the future to the immediate family circle, and it would be better still if they were dropped before the child began to have associates outside of the family.

There comes to mind now a summer spent in a New England village with a family who bought all their sea food supply from a big, honest, clumsy man, who wore boots that wrinkled down around his ankles with wrinkles so hard and brown that one never ceased to wonder how the man was able to endure what it seemed must be the torture of wearing them. Trousers several inches too short enveloped the size of the boots. Waiting for the tide to fall, so that he could plow the mud and discover the hidden means of livelihood, had developed a leisurely manner that was fascinating to one who had spent a year in the rush of city life. His boat, the very rake over its stern, had an air that imparted a feeling of skepticism to the truth of the poet's declaration that "Time is fleeting." His name, pronounced "Fresh," was beyond the power of solution, though many idle minutes had been spent in the hope of giving it a beginning and an end, a place in some family relation. At last curiosity forced a question. What was the name? The man's name was "John," plain, honest, strong, and sitting. When a baby his mother had called him "precious boy," and this had been appropriated by schoolmates, and clung to him all through his life.

Who can tell how far that pet name had weakened muscles and courage, and kept the boy where his mother could keep her eye on him? It deprived him of identity. When "John" was carved on his tombstone the family had to explain that it was set up to keep alive in enduring stone the memory of "Fresh."—Christian Union.

A Secret Tailsman.

The Germans have a story which that home-loving people like to repeat. A father, when his daughter became a bride, gave her a golden casket with the injunction not to pass it into other hands, for it held a charm which in her keeping would be of incalculable value to her as the mistress of a house. Not only was she to have the entire care of it, but she was to take it every morning to the cellar, the kitchen, the dining-room, the library, the parlor, the bed-rooms, and to remain with it in each place for five minutes, looking carefully about. After a lapse of three years the father was to send the key, that the secret tailsman might be revealed. The directions were followed. The key was sent. The casket was opened. It was found to contain an old parchment, on which were written these words: "The eyes of the mistress are worth one hundred pair of servant's hands." The wise father knew that a practice of inspection followed faithfully for three years would become a habit and be self-perpetuating—that the golden casket and the hidden charm would have accomplished their mission.

The Faith of a Child.

Bishop Vincent tells us an inspiring story of the war times. He was pastor of a church at Galena, Ill., when the first Bull Run battle was fought. The first news was favorable to our arms and every one was jubilant. Later came reports of the awful reverse, the rebels victorious and our defeated troops streaming backward toward Washington. He had a meeting of his clergy that night, but they could do no business. Thought and tongue would dwell only on the dreadful defeat. One brother said: "We couldn't eat any supper the first one, and then another, would push back from the table, leaving the food uneaten, and exclaim of the horrors of the battle and its disastrous results." Four-year-old Cynthia, in her little rocking chair, said: "I don't care, 'long as Dad ain't killed. He'll bring 'em all right." The faith of the little girl rebuked their fears, and enabled them to say: "The Lord reigneth let earth rejoice!"

What Columbus Thought.

In a lecture Prof. Fluke says: Columbus estimated the earth to be one-seventh smaller than it really is. He exaggerated the length of Asia, and supposed it to extend so far east that its eastern coast would come to where Mexico is. Then he supposed the island of Japan would extend to where Cuba is, and he argued from a verse in the Apocrypha that one-seventh of the temperate zone was water, and that that would be what he would have to cross, which distance he estimated at 2,500 miles.

The Prince of Wales.

It is remarkable news in our cable dispatch, says the N. Y. Sun, "that the British Westray conference had passed a full hour in praying for the conversion of the Prince of Wales. Among all the criticisms that have yet been made upon the Prince, this is the criticism that he will be likely to feel the most keenly," which above all things also is nothing but a life, which exceeds the three score and ten between the Prince of Wales and the throne of Great Britain and the ship of the great Protestantism, namely, the establishment of the English and Scottish monarchies, and the conversion of the Prince of Wales.

THE APPOPHIS.

The Apophis was a long ago 1714 by one Henry who in that year obtained a patent for this country for a device that would write printed characters of a size or one after the other. There is a description of this device in a book now, but there is no doubt that this invention was the parent of the present typewriter. In 1835 a French patent was granted to Monsieur Progre (Karl) of Marseilles for a typewriter, which he called a typographical machine. The account of the machine is somewhat obscure, but enough is given to show that it was an operative one by which typewriting could be fairly well executed. St. Foucault sent to the Paris exhibition in 1855 a writing machine for the blind, and several typewriters were invented by Wheatstone. After successive improvements a manufacturer in America in 1873 contracted to construct 25,000.

A Brave Mother.

As showing the force of maternal love among the lower animals, there are few more pathetic incidents than the following, which comes from Australia:

The owner of a country station was sitting one evening on the balcony outside his house, when he was surprised to notice a kangaroo lingering about, alternately approaching and retreating from the house, as though half in doubt and fear what to do. At length she approached the water-pail, and taking a young one from her pouch, held it to the water to drink.

While her baby was satisfying its thirst the mother was quivering all over with excitement, for she was but a few feet from the balcony, where one of her great foes was sitting, watching her. The little one having finished drinking, it was replaced in the pouch, and the old kangaroo started off at a rapid pace.

When the natural timidity of the kangaroo is taken into account it will be recognized what astonishing bravery this affectionate mother betrayed. It is a pleasing ending to the story that the eye-witness was so affected by the scene that from that time forward he could never shoot a kangaroo.

Gems of Thought.

Every man is a volume. If you know how to read him.—Channing.

Vice stings even in our pleasures; but virtue consoles even in our pains.

The tale-bearer and the tale-hearer should both be hung up back to back, one by the tongue and the other by the ear.—South.

All of us who are worth anything spend our manhood in unlearning the follies or exploring the mistakes of our youth.—Shelley.

The woman who really wishes to refuse contents herself with saying so. She who explains wants to be convinced.—Alfred de Musset.

Examine your own words well, and you will find that even when you have no motive to be false, it is a very hard thing to say the exact truth, even about your own immediate feelings—much harder than to say something fine about them which is not the exact truth.—Adam Bede.

At West Point.

Luxuries are not suffered at West Point. The rules are exceedingly strict, and if a young man appears at the window of his room with his coat unbuttoned he is reported. He is not allowed to have pictures upon his wall or even the luxury of pockets in his trousers. A young man of Albany, N. Y., found the rules exceedingly irksome and sought to mitigate their rigor occasionally by placing them in innocuous desuetude. This, however, is a difficult thing to do at West Point, and when the cadet endeavored to take his ease in the seclusion of his apartment by fitting a pair of ingenious contrived rockers to his hard wooden chair, he was unlucky enough one morning to forget to hide them under his mattress, and so got two demerits as a punishment for indulging in luxury.

Gladstone on the Gospel.

Mr. Gladstone recently said: "The older I grow the more confirmed I am in my faith and religion. Talk about the question of the day! There is but one question, and that is the gospel. That can and will protect everything. Agnosticism? I am profoundly thankful that none of my children or kindred have been blasted with it. I am glad to say that about all the men at the top in Great Britain are Christians. I have been in public life fifty-eight years, and forty-seven in the cabinet of the British government, and during those forty-seven years I have been associated with sixty of the master minds of the country, and all but five of the sixty were Christians."

Large Bishops.

Next to Phillips Brooks, whose gigantic size is well known, the bishop of the Episcopal church who possesses the greatest birth and stature is Bishop Walker of North Dakota. He is three inches above six feet in height, stout in proportion, and has a strikingly handsome face. His hair and beard are black. The bishop is an entertaining talker and a man who shines as brightly in society as in the pulpit. A few days ago he was some-where by introducing a "magnificent car" into the service of the church, and with it he carried the gospel by rail through the Northwestern States.

The Prince of Wales.